



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

Arkansas - Rural Development

Detention Center

Fulton County Detention Center Opens in Salem, AR

Outline Of Need:

The previous facility was over 30 years old and designed for 7 inmates and constantly overcrowded. The facility could not house high risk inmates, therefore having to house these inmates at other facilities was a substantial cost to Fulton County. The ability of observation by staff was minimal and lack of definition of a security perimeter created violations of visitation requirements as well as unsafe intake, booking and release. In August 2009, the State of Arkansas Criminal Detention Facilities Review Committee (CDFRC) issued a directive that unless the current facility was brought into compliance with State Jail Standards, Fulton County would be forced to close the jail. Also, due to the layout of the building, the 911 Dispatch area was not secure from public access. In addition, local health and safety standards as well as ADA compliance requirements were not met.

How Rural Development Helped:

Through the American Recovery and Reinvestment

Fast Facts

Program: Community Facilities

Date: December 2013, completion date

Investment: \$1.7 million in ARRA loan funds and \$300,000 in ARRA grant funds

Congressional District: Senator Mark Pryor, Senator John Boozman and Congressman Rick Crawford, District 1

Demographics:

City of Salem, Fulton County, AR, located in North Central Arkansas, which is in a StrikeForce designated county.

Impact:

- Public safety of the area improved with the construction of the new detention facility.
- May generate new businesses and individuals to the area .



Photo:
Fulton County Detention Center

Act (ARRA) funds, the Rural Development Community Facility program was able to provide \$1.7 million in loan funds and \$300,000 in grant funds to build the current facility which is approximately 6,500 square feet with 36 beds and a central control room. The support components are three holding cells, booking/intake, kitchen, laundry, medical and multipurpose area, exercise space, secure prisoner loading center (Sallyport), eight offices, reception area, lobby and 911 dispatch.

The Results:

Since construction of the new facility, safety of the citizens of Fulton County as well as surrounding areas has improved due to the top of the line security systems that are now in place. Also, the 911 dispatch area is now in a secure location. Along with improved security, the ability to house the inmates in the County's own state of the art facility, has stopped the drain on County funds thus freeing up funds to be used for other County projects. Having a low crime rate is a key quality of life issue that attracts businesses and individuals, therefore with the County's ability to adequately house inmates and control arrestees, the county hopes to attract more businesses and individuals to their community.